Phase-I in Uttar Pradesh, by and large, are beign operated satisfactorily. To control pollution on account of dumping of human and cattle waste in the river, programmes to generate awareness to keep the river clean and to seek people's participation in this endeavour are on.

Introduction of CT-20R PHS Telephones in India

412. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICAITONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent press reports about the introduction of inexpensive CT-2 Telephones or PHS Telephones in Singapore, Japan and USA which cost much less than the Cellular Telephones, and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government would consider the introduction of new CT-2 or PHS Telephoens, as a value added communication service in India, particularly when they cost less than one-fourth the price of Cellular Telephones but can perform more than 80% of their functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE Of THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. MTNL had conducted field trials only for CT-2 technology to a limited extent in Delhi and Bombay. The services offered by CT-2 are generally acceptable although limited in facilities compared to Cellular Telephones. CT-2 and Cellular phoens have different features and address different markets and are supplementary in nature.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

Supply of Contaminated Kerosene

413. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contaminated kerosene was supplied to consumers by certain companies;

(b) if so, the details of such companies, and the action proposed to be taken against them;

(c) steps being contemplated by Government to prevent such incidents in future; and

(d) the compensation paid to the families of deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that during February-March, 1994, there was an incident of supply of contaminated kerosene in and around Kota supply area Ex-Kota Depot of the IOC in Rajasthan.

The Enquirty Committee appointed by the Government has recommended various steps to prevent such accidents in furture. Accordingly, the oil companies are observing quality control guidelines as per industry quality control manual at all locations in addition to imparting training at grass-root level, including the wholesale kerosene dealers, and carrying out regular and surprise inspections.

(d) A total amount of Rs. S3 lakhs was paid to the families of the deceased by the IOC.

Waiting List for Telephone in Karnataka

414. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the waiting list for telephone connections in Karnataka, Exchange-wise;

(b) the date by which the waiting list will be cleared; and

(c) the details of expansion programme of telephone exchanges for the current year?